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**At the Court at Hampton-Court
the 28 day of July 1581.**

Present
The Kings most Excellent Majesty
Lord Archbishop of Canterbury
Lord President
Lord Privy Seal
Earl of Chatham
Earl of Bath
Earl of Craven
Earl of Halifax
Earl of Conway
Lord Viscount Fauconberg
Lord Viscount Hyde
Lord Bishop of London
Mr. Secretary Jenkins
Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer
Mr. Seymour
Mr. Godolphin.

Is Majesty by His Order in Council of the One and twentieth of July instant, having been Graciously pleased to refer a Memorial presented to His Majesty in behalf of the distressed Protestants abroad, to the Consideration of the Right Honourable the Lords Committees of this Board for Trade and Plantations, with
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directions to Report their opinion thereupon;
And their Lordships having this day made their
Report to His Majesty in Council, His Majesty up-
on due Consideration thereof had was pleased to
Declare, That He holds Himself obliged in Ho-
nour and Conscience to maintain and support all
such afflicted Protestants who by reason of the Ri-
gours and Severities which are us'd towards them
upon the Account of their Religion, shall be forced
to quit their Native Countrey, and shall desire to
shelter themselves under His Majesties Royal
Protection, for the preservation and free exercise
of their Religion; And in order hereunto His
Majesty was pleas'd further to Declare, That He
will Grant unto every such distressed Protestant
who shall come hither for refuge, and reside here,
His Letters of Denization under the Great Seal
without any charge whatsoever, and likewise such
further priviledges and immunities as are consistent
with the Laws, for the Liberty and free exercise
of their Trades and Handicrafts; And that His
Majesty will likewise recommend it to His Parlia-
ment at their next Meeting to Pass an Act for the
General Naturalization of all such Protestants as
shall come over as aforesaid, and for the further
enlarging their Liberties and Franchises granted to
them by His Majesty, as reasonably may be neces-
sary for them. And for their encouragement,
His Majesty is likewise pleased to Grant unto
them, That they shall pay no greater Duties in
any case then His Majesties own Natural born
Subjects, and that they shall have all the privi-
ledges and immunities that generally His Maje-
sties

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sties Native Subjects have, for the Introduction
of their Children into Schools and Collegies.

And His Majesty was likewise pleased to Order,
and it is hereby Ordered accordingly, That all His
Majesties Officers both Civil and Military do give
a kind reception to all such Protestants as shall ar-
rive within any of His Majesties Ports in this
Kingdom, and to furnish them with free Pass-
Ports, and give them all assistance and furtherance
in their Journeys to the Places to which they shall
desire to go. And the Right Honourable the Lords
Commissioners of His Majesties Treasury are to
give Orders to the Commissioners of His Majesties
Customs, to suffer the said Protestants to pass free
with their Goods and Householdstuff, whether of a
greater or a smaller value, together with their Tools
and Instruments belonging to their Crafts, or
Trades, and generally all what belongs to them
that may be Imported according to the Laws now
in force, without exacting any thing from them.
And for the further relief and encouragement of
the said necessitous Protestants, His Majesty hath
been pleased to give Order for a General Brief
through His Kingdom of *England*, Dominion of
Wales, and Town of *Berwick*, for Collecting the
Charity of all well disposed persons, for the re-
lief of the said Protestants, who may stand in
need thereof. And to the end that when any
such come over, being Strangers, they may
know where to address themselves to fitting per-
sons to lay their requests and complaints before
His Majesty: His Majesty was Graciously pleas-
ed to appoint the most Reverend Father in God,
his Grace the Lord Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and
the

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the Right Reverend Father in God, the Lord
Bishop of London, or either of them, to receive
all the said Requests and Petitions, and to present
the same to His Majesty, to the end such Order
may be given therein as shall be necessary.

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Kingdom, and to furnish them with free Pass-
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Customs, to suffer the said Protestants to pass free
with their Goods and Householdstuffs, whether of
great or small value together with their Tools
and Instruments belonging to their Crafts, or
Trades, and generally all what belongs to their
Livelihood, and to the said Protestants now
in force, without paying any Duty thereon.

LONDON.

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most Excellent Majesty 1681.

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